

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
September 28, 2023

OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

05.A. Action: Award competitive grants for the State Invested Pre-Kindergarten Program [Goal 3 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Background and Purpose: The Mississippi Legislature, in 2022, appropriated new state funding to provide public schools a grant opportunity to implement pre-K programs. The purpose of these grants is to provide funding to support high-quality pre-Kindergarten programs for four-year-old children in districts that are not part of an Early Learning Collaborative. The new pre-K programs will meet all ten NIEER benchmarks: use of Early Learning Standards, curriculum supports, teacher degree, teacher specialized training, assistant teacher degree, staff professional development, maximum class size, staff-child ratio, screenings and referrals, and a continuous quality improvement system. Partnerships with local child care centers or Head Start grantees are not a condition for receiving these grants but is itemized as a criterion for extra points in the evaluation process.

Scope of Grant:

- Grant Period: September 28, 2023 – June 30, 2026
(With a liquidation period ending July 12, 2026)
- Award Amount: \$6,750,000
- Method of Award: Request for Application

Funding Source: State funds

Summary of Selection Process:

This application process included priority points to award grants.

This item references Goal 3 of the *Mississippi Board of Education Strategic Plan*.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

State Invested Pre-K Grant Program

Grantee	Head Start Partnership	Classrooms	Amount Granted per Classroom	Grant Amount per Year	Total Grant Amount 2023 - 2026 Three (3) Years
Enterprise School District		1	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$300,000
Humphreys County School District	X	2	\$125,000	\$250,000	\$750,000
Midtown Public Charter School District		2	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$600,000
Newton County School District	X	3	\$125,000	\$375,000	\$1,125,00
Philadelphia School District		2	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$600,000
South Tippah School District		3	\$100,000	\$300,000	\$900,000
SR 1 Charter School District		2	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$600,000
Sunflower County Consolidated School District		5	\$100,000	\$500,000	\$1,500,000
Union City School District	X	1	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$375,000
Total		21		\$2,250,000	\$6,750,000